# The Lemon Grove FVIF

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Vol. 48, No. 86

Serving Lemon Grove and nearby communities

Thursday, August 8, 1996

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# School district plans to limit class size to 20

Kindergarten, first- and second-graders in the Lemon Grove School District will be receiving more attention than ever when their classes are reduced to 20 students per teacher this fall.

With new state funds available to lower class sizes in the early elementary grades, the Lemon Grove School District was one of the first in San Diego County to unveil its class size reduction plan. Fifty new teachers will be hired to accommodate the smaller classes and projected enrollment increases in the district.

"The smaller classes will provide our younger students with additional instruction and help in reading and math," said Lemon Grove Superintendent Joe Farley. "Combining a bright and energetic teacher with only 20 students is going to be a real boost for learn-

Two new state laws are paving the way for the smaller classes: SB 1777, which provides extra funds for each student in a 20-student classroom, and SB 1789, which provides facility funds for the smaller classrooms.

The new laws give top priority to reducing first grade classes. Once all first-grade classes at a specific campus are at 20, that campus can then apply for funds to reduce second-grade classes. Once all second-grade classes reach 20, the school has the option to target either kindergarten or third-grade classes

Kindergartens were selected in Lemon Grove because they are participants in a comprehensive literacy development program throughout the district.

Farley said district staff moved quickly to participate in the class size reduction program, even though timing made broadbased involvement in the decision-making process difficult. Lemon Grove schools were closed when the class size legislation was passed by the legislature and signed by Gov. Wilson, a surprise to most educators, Far-

"We will be developing a Class Size Reduction Committee to help develop specific plans and goals for long-term class size reduction plans," Farley said.

### Anti-pot program funded

by Dave Schwab

The county's getting \$75,000 from the federal Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) to pay for overtime and equipment needed in "search and destroy" efforts against marijuana growers.

"It's continuing funding from the feds for investigating, collecting evidence, and, ultimately, destroying (pot)," said Myron Klippert, assistant county sheriff in the Law Enforcement Services Bureau "It's used for helicopter flyovers, overtime and maintenance on the aircraft. This is more money than we have received in the past.'

Lt. Bill Baxter of the Narcotics Task Force (NTC) said most marijuana eradication efforts are directed at the county's rural areas. Though much of the illegal marijuana cultivation occurs in North County, Baxter said there's also a substantial amount in East County in Alpine, Jamul, Descanso and environs, and along the state Route 94 corridor near the U.S.-Mexico border out to Potrero and Tecate.

of our more popular ones," Bax-

Sheriff's have another grant they do with the U.S. Forestry Service to combat marijuana cultivation in East County national forest areas, added Baxter.

Baxter said the cultivation battle is a real chessmatch between police and growers

"Growers, particularly the outdoor growers, go to extensive means to avoid detection - camouflaging, resorting to booby traps, hiding fields in extremely remote areas with difficult-toaccess terrain in places you actually have to hike to and camp out

Not all of the hemp however is grown in large fields or rural settings, added Baxter

"We get one heck of a lot of 50- to 100-plant cultivations in somebody's backyard," he said. "We had one of those about three months ago in La Mesa.

According to Baxter, 201 outdoor and 51 indoor marijuana plots were seized by police throughout San Diego County last year. A total of 64,000 plants were removed from outdoor plots, with slightly more than 6,000 plants confiscated from indoor

A total of 111 people were "That quadrant out there is one arrested for outdoor cultivation, and 98 people were apprehended for indoor cultivation.

> Property valued at more than \$1 million was seized from Continued on Back Page

# Disabled artists to exhibit work

LETTERS

by Lora Clark

During the month of August three artists, members of Dimensions Unlimited (DU), an art guild for the physically disabled, will be featured at Foothills Art Gallery

Among the featured artists is local resident Pat Holland.

Holland can't get around without a wheelchair and she can only work a few minutes at a time. Since she was a child, Holland has had a neurological disorder which causes weakness in her extremities, but she paints, wholeheartedly, 15 minutes at a time. Then she must rest a while before she can paint for a few minutes more.

When she sees something that intrigues her, Holland does a pencil sketch on whatever's handy. usually a page in the notebook she carries with her wherever she goes.

"I get my ideas from everywhere," said Holland. "Nature, photos, my dreams, my surroundings, and sometimes images simply come to mind."

Holland, who has lived in Lemon Grove since 1954, has been interested in art ever since she was 5 years old, when her talent was first noticed. Her parents bought art supplies for her, paid for art lessons and supported her efforts in every way they could. Her art teachers at Grossmont High School noticed her ability and encouraged her to pursue her artwork

She started working with oils



Lemon Grove artist Pat Holland works on her latest creation.

"There are more surprises with watercolor," said Holland. "A painting is led by the way the water and the color mix together, and I like the way the colors

She frequently uses pastel hues, especially blues, lavenders, and pinks, as she lovingly transfers to the canvas the beauty of the scene before her. Holland's paintings reflect her gentle, soft-spoken nature. They almost seem to whisper to their viewer, quietly inviting a stop for a moment to drink in their soothing beauty.

blend together.'

Not only has Holland experienced loss of mobility but other major losses, as well. One of her two sons died at the age of 29, and her husband. Van, to whom she'd been married for 42 years, died in January of 1994. Her strong faith in God and the love and support quiet confidence the many challenges that have come her way

The aim of Dimensions Unlimited is threefold: to encourage the disabled to continue their art, to provide a venue for their work, and to help the community become aware of them and what they can do.

The guild meets once a month at the Indoor Sports Club, where guest artists demonstrate various techniques, and workshops are held for the members. Their artwork has been exhibited at the Spanish Village in Balboa Park and the VA hospital, and in various art shows, libraries, businesses and government offices throughout San Diego County.

Linda Colletti, special education art teacher with San Diego Community Colleges and art teacher at the VA hospital, has been active in DU for the past nine years.

Colletti explained that artists who are physically challenged are unable to meet the demands of a regular art guild, such as transporting and hanging their art and spending a certain number of hours each month sitting at a gallery

Another DU member. Jeanne Mantell, has arthritis as did her favorite artist, Renoir. Her hands are so gnarled that she can't hold a paintbrush with one hand, but she can hold it with two, so that's exactly what she does.

Rheumatoid arthritis began its relentless campaign against her when she was 21. During her late teens, Mantell spent some time in the Army and later went on to college. She completed a BA degree with an emphasis in art and obtained a teaching credential. hoping to work with children with learning disabilities, but the arthritis has crippled her so badly she was unable to fulfill that dream.

Mantell uses a motorized wheelchair to get around and, because her allergies give her

Continued on Page 5

Jeanne Mantell will not let rheumatoid arthritis get her down. Photo by Lora Clark

in 1943 but switched to watercolor 20 years later, as she prefers the fluidity of watercolor.

she finds within the prayer community at St. John of the Cross Church has helped her meet with

### Sheriff's Log

July 18, 1996

8000 blk. Broadway. Petty theft. Value unknown.

July 18-19, 1996

3200 blk. College Pl. Grand theft. \$701.13 value.

July 21, 1996

3200 blk. School Ln. Vehicle burglary. \$105 value.

July 22, 1996

7400 blk. Broadway. Auto theft. \$7,000 value.

Washington. Auto theft. \$18,000 value.

July 23, 1996

7800 blk. Broadway. Commercial burglary. Value unknown July 24-July 26, 1996

2000 blk. Skyline Dr. Commercial burglary. \$2,100 value

July 25, 1996

6900 blk. Central Ave. Auto theft. \$2,000 value

7600 blk. Broadway. Petty theft. .90 value.

July 25-26, 1996

8300 blk. Lemon Grove Way. Vehicle burglary. \$200 value

July 28, 1996

6800 blk. Federal Blvd. Auto theft. \$14,000 value.

# **Community Notes**

#### AARP sponsors 55/ALIVE driving classes

The American Association of Retired Persons will sponsor 55/ALIVE mature driving classes from 12:30 - 4:30 p.m. Aug. 13 and 20 at the Lemon Grove Senior Center, 8325 Mt. Vernon Ave. To register, call 463-8851

Class is open to persons 50 years and older and qualifies seniors 55 and older for a mandatory three-year discount on automobile insurance from all insurance companies in California All participants will receive a DMV certificate.

Class is taught by trained volunteers and there is an \$8 fee for certificate and materials.

#### Genealogical Society meets Saturday

San Diego Genealogical Society's monthly meeting will begin at noon on Saturday at the St. Dunstan's Episcopal Church hall, 6556 Park Ridge Blvd. in Del Cerro.

The program will include a 45 minute class by Penny Fieke titled "Vital Records other than Birth, Death and Marriage records." There will also be a program beginning at 1 p.m. given by Schell and Elayne Alexander on "Graven Images: The History of Grave Stones.

Visitors are welcome and admission is free. For further information call 588-0065

#### Credit repair class set

Consumer Credit Counselors, a not-for-profit community service group, will conduct a free workshop on "Correcting Your Own Credit," 1 p.m. Tuesday at 1161 E. Main Street, Suite 102 in El Cajon. The session is designed to teach individuals and families the necessary skills to repair their own credit reports free. For reservations or more information, call 497-0200.

#### VFW offers free living trust seminar

The Spring Valley VFW No. 1512 invites the community to a free seminar on living trusts and wills, 6 p.m. Aug. 15 at 9254 Jamacha Rd.

The seminar will cover how to avoid probate, taxes and conservatorship. Representatives of the American Association of Independent Paralegals, one of the largest providers of living trusts, will be making the presentation. For further information and reservations, call 800-232-9455, ext. 33

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### WEATHER

The following information was provided by the Lemon Grove Fire Department.

|        |    | High | Low |
|--------|----|------|-----|
| July   | 31 | 91   | 67  |
| August | 1  | 81   | 66  |
| August | 2  | 79   | 67  |
| August | 3  | 76   | 64  |
| August | 4  | 72   | 64  |
| August | 5  | 75   | 60  |
| August | 6  | 79   | 67  |
|        |    |      |     |

### The Lemon Grove Review

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#### Steven Saint, Publisher

Assistants to the publisher: Jeff Paris, Mary Rosen, Trudy Thomas Contributing writers: Lora Clark, Phillip Giannangeli. Cynthia O'Neill, Howard Owens, Paul Treske. Betty Jo Tucker

#### Submissions

Letters, editorial and photo submis-sions are welcome, but will not be returned to sender unless accompanied by self-addressed, stamped envelope

Material can be send via e-mail at the following address: sdgreen

All materials must be received by the Monday preceding the date of publication. The editor reserves the right to edit all submissions

#### Advertising

All advertising is subject to current rate card. The publisher reserves the right to reject an advertiser's order.

Only publication of an advertise ment shall constitute final acceptance. Send all correspondence to: Forum Publications, Inc., P.O. Box 127. Lemon Grove, CA 91946

### Lemon Grove Almanac

1994 Population: 25,100 Incorporated: Area: 3.75 sq. mi. Median income: \$34,399

Mayor: Mary Teresa Sessom Council: Thomas Clabby Craig Lake **Dwight Shelley** Jeff Jandura

City Manager: Doug Yount Planning Director: Jim Butler Attorney: Gloria McLean City Clerk **Christine Taub** Sheriff's Capt .: Yolanda Collins Fire Chief: William Wright

Congressional district:

52nd - Duncan Hunter State Senate district:

40th - Steve Peace State Assembly district:

77th - Steve Baldwin Supervisorial district:

2nd - Dianne Jacob

1993 taxable sales: \$1.47 million

# **B** Words

by Bob Burns

#### Reinventing B Words

I was asked, the other day, by my Editor, Mr. Steve Saint, How can we make the paper better. I responded with the thought that "more local news stories" would increase the appeal, and there by the circula-

Getting information about the happenings and projects of our local organizations is difficult to do on an ongoing basis. Fach group has fundraisers, ceremonies, and other sorts of events that could be ceft by more publicity. The compilation, and presentation of them is the problem.

I would like to hereby offer my PO Box BB. Lemon Citizes, CA 91946, as a point where such material can be directed if the various Scout troops, service Clubs, P.T.A.s, etc., would forward their calender or newsletter, or whatever to Box BB, we can do a better job of getting the notices and the recording of events in our local newspaper. The Library, the Chamber of Commerce, and recently the Arts Complex received very complete coverage in the Review. These organizations have a very aggressive P.R. staff and are to be commended for their work on behalf of their group. But there are many more clubs, etc. that do not have the capability for the same

Lemon Grove has enjoyed the weekly issues of the Review for many years. Former owner/editor Max Goodwin was one of the first who welcomed me to town back in 1955. At that time he scooted around town delivering papers in a Cushman golf cart, I believe, and his "Dimmer View" column was always a joy to read. Pete Kaufman expanded the publication as has Steve Saint as well. And, he wants to make it even better

Coverage of events, even in a small community like Lemon Grove is difficult. The larger newspapers in the area give us only cursory coverage, and then it is usually only when controversy abounds. The Media today seem addicted to the bad news, and oblivious of the good. I am proud that we do not have a great deal of problems in Lemon Grove, but I do wish that our positives would receive as much attention as the perceived negatives.

P.O. Box BB is as easy to remember as my initials. Also the P.O. Box for the Lemon Grove Review is #127 for those who prefer numbers to memorize. Any and all information can be directed to either, and we will try to do a better job of local coverage

On another subject, I am hoping and praying that the upcoming GOP convention in San Diego is an orderly and a peaceful one. Our local Retired Senior Volunteer Patrol is being asked to assist with the security and our members have responded willingly. We are receiving some four hours of additional training from the FBI to make our services more effective and efficient. This event is even bigger than the World Series or the Superbowl, in my estimation, and we want it to go off without a hitch.

It is suggested that our residents watch it on TV rather than be a "looky lou" at the scene. Unless one has a definite reason to be in the area, a view from the couch is the best option. Dissent is normal, but we hope,,,and expect of our responsible San Diegans, that it will be within the guidelines of good taste and peacefulness.

### Letter to the Editor

#### SANDAG just blowing smoke

I was really disappointed to see "Criminals tend to own guns, use drugs, SANDAG Says" in Forum Publications [July 25 issue], especially it's attempt at linking marijuana to violence. Fortunately most people know marijuana in itself does not cause violence, unlike alcohol, which in itself is one of the very most violence-creating drugs.

Drug laws and drug wars definitely create considerable violence, often more violence than the drugs themselves would. The government has created a war, a situation they want to blame solely on "drugs," and blaming it on marijuana is ridiculous.

They neglect to mention that many, many fine citizens, who far outnumber the "criminals" also have marijuana in their systems. I don't know how many of them own guns, if they do its not because they smoke cannabis. Mary Tyler Moore, JFK, Bobby Kennedy, Andy Williams, Cloris Leachman, not to mention Clinton and Dole, and most people you know have smoked or do smoke it.

Most of them are very fine, nice people, not violent, nor truly "criminals" at all. Please devote space in Forum Publications to columns that aren't just distorted and misleading political propaganda. This sort of thing creates problems in society.

DEBBIE WEISER Lemon Grove

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# Funds sought for crime victims and witnesses

by Dave Schwab

The county has applied for \$802,133 in state grant funds — a \$5,954 increase over last year to aid crime victims and witnesses.

This marks the 17th year the District Attorney's Victim/Witness Program has funneled grant monies from the state Office of Criminal Justice Planning into programs providing a wide range of medical, social and financial services to crime victims and witnesses countywide.

In East County, victim/witness program services are provided through the DA's office at the East County Regional Center Courthouse, and through staff at the Lemon Grove Sheriff's Substation.

Funding for the DA's victim/witness program comes from the pockets of crime perpetrators, said Dee Fuller, director of the victim/witness assistance program for the DA's office.

"Services for crime victims and witnesses comes from fines and penalty assessments from convicted offenders," said Fuller. "It's the crooks paying for the program instead of taxpayer money."

The state Department of Corrections, added Fuller, has made sure criminals pay for harm caused to victims by requiring a certain portion of their prison earnings to be diverted into the victim -restitution fund.

"It's (prisoner funds) not a lot on an individual basis," noted Fuller, "but it really adds up."

Victim/witness assistance is a social services program housed in the county's criminal justice system.

"Our objective is to determine, as soon as possible, which citizens in our community have been victims of crime, and to contact them to determine what their needs are as the result of that crime," said Fuller. "Then we look for

resources, either in the community or statewide, to meet the needs of families impacted by crime.

In 1995-96, the DA's victim/ witness program provided crisis intervention to 8,991 victims, emergency assistance to 1,604 victims, counseling to 7,741 victims/witnesses, court accompaniment to 529 victims/ witnesses, funeral/burial assistance to 36 families of deceased victims and 2,164 volunteer hours of general assistance to victims/ witnesses.

The program can also aid qualifying victims/witnesses get financial compensation from the state Board of Control for crimerelated losses. Victims have to be either injured, or threatened with injury, to be eligible. Last year, the program helped 5,290 crime victims get more than \$1 million in claims compensation.

Victims/witnesses in the DA's program are aided regardless of the status of their case.

"We don't limite service to people where the (crime) suspect hasn't been caught," noted Fuller. "There's also assistance provided to victims who become witnesses once a suspect is apprehended and the process begins.

Victim/witness assistance can be as simple as escorting someone to a court appearance, or as complex as guiding them through the bureaucratic maze to find appropriate medical, social or financial services

Many crime victims are needy, Fuller pointed out.

"We work with a lot of people who have very limited resources," she stated.

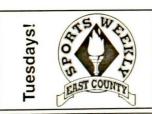
Crime victims may need help with funeral homes to negotiate costs or make arrangements, noted Fuller. They may also need emergency medical care or psychological counseling or housing - even food.

# Pet supply offers free flea dips

Three East County Pet Supply Warehouse locations are offering free flea dips for dogs from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Saturday and again on August 17. Pet Supply Warehouses are located at 7375 Jackson Dr., San Carlos; 540 N. Second St., El Cajon; and 9851 Buena Vista Rd., Santee.

Because of our warm weather. fleas are a year-round problem in San Diego County, and especially bad during the hot summer months. "It is important to keep pets free of fleas as they can migrate to family members. Also, some dogs have severe allergic reactions to flea bites that can lead to high veterinarian bills," said Stu Wolman, coowner of the 10 Pet Supply Warehouse locations in San Diego County. "Regular grooming and flea control can protect your pet from needless suffering."

For additional information, please call (619) 275-5179.





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Steve Baldwin (4th from left) is flanked by various East County officials at last week's ground-breaking ceremony for the TransNet freeway in Spring Valley.

Photo by Greg Eichelberger

### County streamlines land development permitting

by Dave Schwab

Land development and building and construction permitting is to be simplified, coordinated and economized through an automated system to be shared by the county departments of environmental health, planning and land use and public works.

County supervisors acted Aug-6 to implement an automated permitting system for the three departments

The move is designed to improve customer service by streamlining and integrating permit issuance

Isbell said the new integrated. automated system will reduce paperwork by reducing the need three departments.

The city and county of San Diego continue to use the existing city-owned mainframe and countyowned mini-computer and PCbased systems.

The county currently reimburses the city \$200,000 annually.for use and maintenance of the existing computer system. Annual county maintenance costs for the new integrated software system are estimat-

to send status reports between the ed at \$30,000 — an annual savings of approximately \$170,000.

The estimated total cost of the automated permit system project is \$700,000 to \$900,000. The project's first phase will build permit and inspection services

Some of the project's initial goals include provision of a common database, enhanced public access to county information and creation of compatibility between city and county computer systems.



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### by Paul Treske

Everywhere one looks or listens today, the candidacy of Bob Dole is being viewed in the somber tones of a disaster in the making. And most of it has been coming from his so-called friends!

Even now, on the very eve of the Republican Convention, the talk of Dole never catching up with the incumbent Democrat is rife and getting gloomier and gloomier all the time. Scenarios for a Dole victory have appeared at least twice in the staunchly Republican Union-Tribune, but they have the labored logic of someone trying to explain why the earth is flat. Conservative columnist Cal Thomas has even gone so far as to suggest that Dole voluntarily surrender the nomination to someone more likely to win.

Not since Barry Goldwater's 1964 effort has a GOP candidate carried such a negative load into a presidential election. With the Republicans currently held ideological captives of the religious right, the more moderate Dole, bereft of the chance to name Colin Powell as his running mate, finds that virtually every other appealing and name-familiar VP choice (Christine Whitman, John McCain, etc.) is unacceptably pro-choice.

Despite his being denied speech access to the Convention, the ever dangerous Pat Buchanan will fulminate to his faithful in Escondido the night before the Convention opens, and even if the majority of delegates aren't there, the press and media will. They will most certainly give the Buchanan spoutings far more space and importance than they are worth, thus further removing the spotlight from Dole.

In addition to all of this, despite every Republican

claim to the contrary, the American economic scene is good today, certainly better than it was four years ago. Employment is up, wages are up, inflation is under control and the deficit is accruing at an increasingly slower pace. Bill Clinton has proved his cleverness by pre-empting that which is viable in Republican thinking and making his vetoes stick on the rest.

Dole rider overweight

None of this even figures in the Perot factor. The strange little billionaire from Texas is sure to run again and, even though he will probably draw no more than 13-14 percent this time around, most of his support will come from the Dole column.

All of this is a ponderous load for a candidate to carry into September and beyond. Despite this, of course, nothing is certain in politics and events between now and November could certainly cause a shift in American thinking and voting. Up to now, the so-called "character" issue has failed to resonate, and Whitewater suffered a near-fatal setback a few days ago at the hands of an Arkansas jury. But such issues, renewed with new evidence, can sometimes light fire and should not be overlooked.

But right now, during the second week in August, Dole's chances would probably go off on a racetrack tote board at lease 20 - 1. If he were a better speaker and campaigner and perhaps a bit less the "grumpy old man," the odds might go down, but he still seems to be carrying too much weight to win the race.

Expect soon to see Republican congressional candidates begin to distance themselves from the national ticket. After all, they have their own re-elections to worry about.

This week's Perspectives comes to you from deep inside the broiler: the control panel was set on maximum the last couple of days of July and all the elements were radiating a scorching heat. That's East County for you. That's summer in East County don't you know. That's normal for summer in East County by

But why, you ask, must summers in East County be so? I'm glad you asked, otherwise I'd have no place to go with this piece. Let me try to explain.

First let me tell you that there are a number of explanations offered for the heat that sometimes overwhelms us at various times in the summer. Some of those explanations have to do with the meteorological, some with the geographical, and some with the mystical. I'm going to focus mainly on the last category

If you look up East County in any reference resource, several things will stand out. First, East County lies in what scientists refer to in their best techno-treatise talk as the Extreme Zone. It's depicted on most maps in a dirty, washed-out yellow. Had the original map-maker used a flaming red, we'd have had the answer right there. Since, however, he (and we know it was a he because in earlier times females were presumed to be geographically impaired) used yellow, confusion still exists. It's really very easy to understand if you remember that yellow is the color of gold, gold is widely sought after, anything so widely coveted is said to be hot, ipso facto, yellow for hot. Had there been female cartographers at the time, our area would have probably taken on more subtle shades and our climate today might be like that of places such as Bend, Oregon or Thief River Falls, Minnesota. But alas our male map-maker grabbed that yellow without thinking. He needed a color quickly so he could go back to ogling the babes competing in the Over the Cuyamacas tournament. Yellow it was.

A less believable theory regarding the oppressive heat of our summers comes from the chronicles of some very religious conservative groups. The tales told there refer to East County as the land that both God and the devil fought over. The fight went on for eons and eons and after a while, a truce was agree on. God would enjoy the sparse beauty and grandeur of the area most of the time while the devil, every now and then, would be able to exact his joy by turning the thermostat

The latter explanation lends much weight to East County's beauty and bane, but for those of us who are scientifically grounded, it's not the whole picture. This next explanation of the heat we endure in the summers has. I think, the most veracity.

The sun comes up in the morning. There is nothing to filter out its rays. The heat builds. By mid morning, the ground has warmed up and begins radiating heat back at the sun. It becomes a sort of cosmic competition between the earth and the sun to see who can generate the most heat. We in East County are lucky enough to have front row seats to this struggle. After a while, sun and earth tire of their fun and games and things return to normal. We end up with summer days that make East County the envy of the rest of San Diego County - even if they won't admit it!

I hope my explanations have helped clear up the mystery of why we have the kind of heat we had at the end of July. If not, let me know. But please save your comments until January or February so I can use them to warm myself.

Don't just sit back and complain, send your letter to the editor today!

Reel Thoughts

# 'Chain Reaction' thrills both heart and head

by Betty Jo Tucker

Like an old Alfred Hitchcock thriller, "Chain Reaction" takes moviegoers on a wild, suspensefilled terror trip with cinematic style and grace. Director Andrew Davis ("The Fugitive") emulates Hitchcock's visually stimulating style while Morgan Freeman and Keanu Reeves add a special acting grace to this exciting movie.

Reeves ("Speed," "A Walk in the Clouds") delivers another surprisingly believable performance as Eddie Kasalivich, a machinist accused of killing one of the world's most distinguished scientists. Freeman ("Seven," "The Shawshank Redemption"), back in top form after his miscasting in "Moll Flanders," plays Paul Snannon, a wealthy man of mystery who heads a foundation involved in research on alternative fuel systems.

After the lead scientist's murder, Shannon (Freeman) claims to be Kasalivich's (Reeves) only ally, but is he really? This question provides much of the film's suspense. Unfortunately, the answer comes too soon and lessens its impact considerably

Two of the most memorable scenes in "Chain Reaction" show Kasalivich eluding his pursuers over a Chicago drawbridge and in a snowboat over icy terrain. These spectacular shots remind us of Cary Grant running from an airplane in an open field in Hitchcock's classic "North by Northwest."

The science in "Chain Reaction" seems actually plausible. There are no death rays or alien



Keanu Reeves is on the run as Eddie Kasalivich in "Chain Reaction.

invasions - just the possibility of developing a cheap, non-pollutant fuel. By hinting at the political, social and economic implications

of such a breakthrough, this movie gives audiences more food for thought than most thrillers.

And more good news! "Chain Reaction" contains no gratuitous violence, sexually explicit scenes, or foul language. This highly entertaining film, released by Twentieth Century Fox, does include elegant action, a compelling story, and top-notch performances not only by its two stars but also by supporting actors Fred Ward ("The Right Stuff," "Remo Williams: The Adventure Begins") as a gruff F.B.I. agent and Rachel Weisz ("Stealing Beauty") as a young physicist also suspected in the murder of the noted scientist.

My critical reaction: "Chain Reaction" deserves to be seen on the big screen, so don't wait for the

# Letters to the Editor

#### Where's the beef?

The press seems a little miffed that the President's poll ratings remain high, despite the continuous media coverage of negative "news" about Bill and Hillary Clinton.

I use the term "news" advisedly, since at least half the stories, often with accompanying from page banner headlines, are based largely upon allegations and unsubstantiated rumors. often from anonymous sources, about the President and First Lady

Even so, more than one commentator has questioned the intelligence of the American people for seeming to ignore the media's message, and there has lately been a plethora of editorial cartoons portraying voters as, shall we say, dummies.

I suggest that the opposite is the case. Voters are looking at President Clinton's record on the economy, crime, job creation, and deficit reduction, and they are also looking at the people who are making charges against him. The problem with the Republican campaign of inquisition and innuendo, which began virtually on inauguration day, is that it is starting to remind some of us of the old fairy tale of the boy who cried "wolf" too many times. The public is becoming desensitized and bored with it all.

Despite a political smear campaign, Clinton's enemies have been unable to prove that he has done anything either illegal or unethical. This is true, despite the fact that millions of tax-payer dollars have been used to finance years of investigations, all headed (coincidentally?) by Republicans, with Whitewater "independent" prosecutor Kenneth Starr being the prime example. (This is the same Kenneth Starr who contributed both advice and money to fund the Paula Jones sexual harassment law suit against the president.)

In this age of tabloid journalism. I guess we have to expect that unconfirmed allegations. leaks, unsigned faxes, and even gossip will actually be reported as "news." However, most Americans know the difference between fact and innuendo. And most Americans adhere to an abiding principle of our justice system people are innocent until proven guilty.

In the dirtiest political campaign in recent history, citizens are gamely trying to sift and sort through the mud of half-truths and insinuations to focus on the issues and the candidates' respective ideas for the future of America.

Columnists and commentators seem distressed that most Americans are losing interest in Whitewater, or that the average voier doesn't care that Mrs. Clinton tries to deal with her own daily vilification by Republicans through trying to imagine how Eleanor Roosevelt would handle the situation.

It is almost like the writers, pundits, and "talking heads" on TV just can't believe that voters are really interested in substantive issues 'ke education, the environment, and the economy

Commentators seem insulted that the voters don't greet a book that criticizes White House staffers' dress and hair styles with the same excitement that reporters do

Perhaps the public is not as gullible as the spin doctors and rumor mongers would like to believe. It would seem these so-called journaists have greatly overestimated what the media refers to as "the dumbing down of America.

Voters are interested in the issues facing he country! It is a shame that newscasters haven't been able to figure out that in news coverage. as well as hamburgers, most Americans still asking, "Where's the Beef?"

JULIA MICHELLE ANDREWS

Alpine

Continued from Page 1

there, doing things," stated Mantell.

After a bout with polio when she was ten years old, Lynda Hamilton was paralyzed from the neck down. As the months and years passed, she regained the use of her legs, and her lung capacity enabled her to do what she needed to do, but she never regained the use of her arms. It was at that time that she began to use her mouth to do her drawing.

Although she enjoyed art and dreamed about becoming an artist, she didn't do much with her art as a child, but later she began to paint and for many years she was what she calls a "closet painter." Although she didn't want people to see her artwork. her friends would notice it when they visited in her home, and some of them even wanted to buy it. She didn't have the courage to take art classes at the time, but she continued learning on her own and practiced a lot at home. Then one day about ten years ago a friend gave her a brochure about Dimensions Unlimited and suggested that she give it a try. She went to one of the meetings, and it was there that she found the warmth, friendliness, and acceptance she needed.

The emphasis was not on the disability," said Hamilton. "It was on whether or not your work is good, and that's important to me."

Hamilton joined the guild, and her life began to change. She served as treasurer for many years and found encouragement and help as she blossomed and grew as an artist. Her artwork was included in the guild's art shows, and people began buying it, to the extent that her paintings are now a part of many private collections throughout the United

Hamilton enjoys painting places she'd like to be. She depicts various situations and places that she enjoyed during her childhood, and she paints things that

make her feel good, such as the ocean, mountains, and streams.

Those things are very peaceful to me," said Hamilton. "Painting beautiful things takes my mind off the real world and puts me in my own little world, so much so that hours and hours will go by without my even realizing it."

Hamilton was born in Texas, where she lived until she was 22. She came to California to visit some friends and wound up staying. She earned a degree in psychology and did some counseling in the San Diego area. She then spent a couple of years with VISTA, Volunteers In Service To America. At that time, disabled children were just beginning to be mainstreamed into the public school system, so Hamilton went into various classrooms to talk to the students and teachers about the disabled. Her aim was to help dispel the discomfort people feel around those with disabilities. She enjoyed working with kids so much that she became an instructional aide for San Diego City Schools and Southwest Christian School in Chula Vista

Hamilton is currently taking an art class, where she's learning to work with acrylics

"My teacher is just wonderful," said Hamilton. "For me, the biggest challenge is to figure out physically how I can do what I want to do. She's good at helping me do that."

Last summer a fellow mouthpainter encouraged Hamilton to submit her work to the European Mouth and Foot Painter Association, an organization started 40 years ago, designed to help the mouth and foot painter advance and grow as an artist. She submitted five pieces and was accepted into the group.

"It's encouraging to be a part of that sort of support system," said Hamilton, "and to know that some of my work is being exhibited in Europe. I'm excited about the possibilities that lie ahead for me

# Faust with a fast pitch appearing at CCT

The historic Mount Helix Amphitheater in La Mesa will soon become a baseball stadium as Christian Community Theater's production of "Damn Yankees" takes the field for an 11-night stand, Thursdays through Sundays from Aug. 15 through 31.

This lively, entertaining musical is a cautionary tale with a warning...it's dangerous to make deals with the Devil. As in the classic story of Faust (who sold his soul for knowledge), "Damn Yankees" is the tale of Joe Boyd, who is willing to trade his soul to help his favorite team (the Washington Senators)

Directed by Paul Russell, "Damn Yankees" features Jim Chovick as Mr. Applegate. Dr. Steve Richards, played by Jason Kent, is baseball fanatic Boyd who becomes the young Joe Hardy. Kathy Schmidt plays Lola and Christina Barrett plays Meg Boyd, Joe's faithful wife. The cast of 41 includes performers from all over San Diego County, from Vista to Chula Vista, from La Jolla to Alpine.

"Damn Yankees" previews on Aug. 15, opening Friday, Aug. 16. Show dates are Aug. 15, 16, 17, 18, 22, 23, 24, 25, 29, 30 and 31 at the outdoor amphitheater atop Mount Helix.

All performances begin at 8 p.m. with tickets available at the amphitheater box office beginning at 7 p.m. each night

To purchase tickets with credit card by phone call 588-0206 or stop by the CCT box office at 1545 Pioneer Way in El Cajon Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

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Jason Kent as Joe Hardy in "Damn Yankees."

This production by Christian Community Theater has no relationship to the touring production of Jerry Lewis in "Damn Yankees" which will be coming to San Diego later this year.

Presenting its 17th season of musical theater, Christian Community Theater is a non-profit educational corporation presenting high-quality, family entertainment since 1980. CCT also operates CYT, an after-school theater arts program for children 6 -18 and manages Theatre East, East County's Performing Arts Center located in El Cajon. For more information call 588-0206.

#### Lamplighter's series continues

The Lamplighter's Director's Showcase Summer Festival of oneact play reaches its climax this weekend with its final three plays: James Barrie's "The Twelve-Pound Look," Carla Gallagher-Campbell's "Bird on a Bubble" and Lanford Wilson's "Ludlow Fair."

The well-known Barrie play is being directed by Cynthia Mitchell, a recent New York transplant.

Gallagher-Campbell is directing her own play. She has frequently presented her original plays in schools, Y's and community organizations.

"Ludlow Fair" is directed by Pepperdine Theater Arts graduate Brent Altomare, who has directed several plays in recent years for Sweettooth Theater

Performances today through Saturday, are at 8 p.m. while the Sunday matinee is at 2 p.m.

# 

# **East County** Theater Guide

Lamplighters Community Theater

8053 University Avenue, La Mesa (464-4598) 'Summer Director's Showcase" featuring one-act plays Tonight through Saturday, 8 p.m. Sunday, 2 p.m.

**Octad-One Productions** 

East County Performing Arts Center Amphitheater 250 E. Main Street, El Cajon (466-3987) "Hamlet" by William Shakespeare Saturdays and Sundays through Aug. 25, 6 p.m. Tickets: donations appreciated

**Christian Community Theater** 

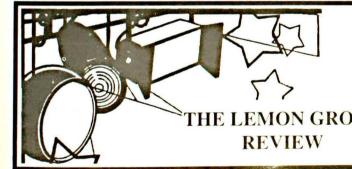
Mt. Helix Amphitheater

4901 1/2 Mt. Helix Drive, La Mesa (588-0206)

"Damn Yankees"

Thursdays through Sundays, Aug. 15 - 31, 8 p.m.

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Corner Skyline and Alton Drive John R. Embree, Pastor Telephone: 465-7301

Worship: 9 a.m. Sunday School 10:15 a.m.

# Spirit of '76 captured at Helix High School reunion

by Candace Reed

Sally Kinsella traveled all the way from North Carolina to attend the 20 year reunion of Helix High School's class of 1976 at the La Mesa Community Center.

"It was definitely worth it." said the former homecoming queen. "I've seen so many old

Most of Kinsella's classmates didn't have to travel quite so far.

La Mesa and ElCajon still seem to be the best place to live for many of the alumni

David Rouillard was happy that he had just moved back to La Mesa from San Diego.

Other long-time La Mesa residents included Glen and Susan Whilhite, high school sweet-

We met when we were 15 in Mr Munson's geometry class.' said Glen. "We go married in 1977 and we've been together

Glen owns a landscaping company and Susan stays home to care for their three children, ages 16, 12 and 8

The celebrating began on Friday with a golf tournament at Singing Hills Country Club.

The event drew 200 people.

Guests were serenaded by a Scottish Bagpipe as they dined on food provided by Continental

Everyone agreed that the class of '76 still looked great.

"The whole evening was some what surreal," said said La Mesa resident Edwina Goodell Villegas. "You see all these faces and then suddenly you realize who they

Almost everyone recognized Villegas, who still looked 18 and was voted the least changed alumni-female

Other awards went to Jackie Friend, who received the "Paul Newman and Joanne Woodward Award for longest married - 20

Jim Mitchell and Leah Cash shared the award for most grandchildren with two apiece.

For some classmates it was like 20 years hadn't passed.

Laura Saucerman Case, Linda Stobauer Grundstrom and Gail Hand were acting like high school girls again, laughing and talking in the corner. Becky Luther Robeson was still cracking jokes and Charlie Kirk finally got up the nerve to tell Edwina Villegas that he had a crush on her in the third grade.

The weekend of fun finally concluded on Sunday with a family style picnic held at Harry Griffen park. Jan Barranco Grams, who was in charge of planning the event was happy with the turnout.

"It's been stressful and very time-consuming putting this together," she said as she looked around at her friends. Even though I'm looking forward to getting my life back, but seeing the end result is very satisfying."

### PUBLIC NOTICES

IN THE FOLLOWING DE-SCRIBED PROPERTY EXHIBIT "A" Lot 22, of Blossom Hill, in the City of Lemon Grove, County of San Diego, State of California,

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF: RICHARD LETTS VAN ZELE

CASE NO. P168192

TASE NO. P168192

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both, of: RICHARD LETTS VAN ZELE

A PETITION has been filed by GARY WAYNE BURGER in the Superior Court of California, County of San Diego.

THE PETITION requests that GARY WAYNE BURGER be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent.

sonal representative to administer the estate of the decedent.

THE PETITION requests the decedent's WILL and codicils, if any, be admitted to probate. The WILL and any codicils are available for examination in the file kept by the court.

THE PETITION requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the personal

Estates Act. (This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have notice to interested per-sons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.) The independent adminis-tration authority will be granted unless an interest-ed person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the au-

should not grant the authority.

A HEARING on the petition will be held on September 3, 1996 at 1:45 P.M. in Dept. 35 located at 220 W. Broadway San Diego CA 92101.

IF YOU OBJECT TO the station of the netition.

"IF YOU OBJECT To the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney.

IF YOU ARE A CREDI-

TOR or a contingent credi-tor of the deceased, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representa-tive appointed by the court within four months from the date of first issuance of letters as provided in section 9100 of the California Probate Code. The time for filing claims will not expire before four months from the hearing date noticed above.

the hearing date noticed above.
YOU MAY EXAMINE the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a formal Request for Special Notice of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in account as provided in section 1250 of the Cali fornia Probate Code. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk

court clerk.
Attorney for Petitioner:
Leland C. McEuen, Esq.
P.O. Box 927397
San Diego CA 921927397
08/01, 08/06, 08/08

Mortgage Services, Inc. 4880 Hall-mark Parkway San Bernardino, CA 92407-1863. Directions to the above properly may be obtained by requesting same in writing from the beneficiary within 10 days from the first publication of this notice. Said sale will be made without coverant of warranty, express or implied as to title possession or encumbrances to satisfy the unpaid balance due on the note secured by said. Deed of Trust to wt. \$152.843.03 pilus the following estimated costs: expenses and advances at the time of the initial publication of this Notice of Sale estimated trustee's fees and costs in the amount of \$2,784.20, plus interest on the unpaid principal balance at the rate of 7,50000% per annum from March. 1985 to date of sale, plus accrued late charges, and advances the beneficiary is authorized or obligated to pay prior to sale. YOU ARE IN DE FAULT UNDER A DEED OF TRUST OUT PROCEEDING AGAINST YOU, YOUR PROCEEDING AGAINST YOU, YOUR PROPERTY If MAY BE SCIOL AT A PUBLIC SALE IF YOU NEED AN EXPLANATION OF The HATURE OF THE PROCEEDING AGAINST YOU, YOU SHOULD CONTACT A LAWYER GE Capital Mortgage Trust Deed Services, Inc. as trustee, Cecilia Martinez, Assistant Secretary. 4600. Hallmann Yankows, San Bernardino. CA \$2407.1833, For information about the status of this trusteer's sale, call (1916) 387.7728. For Information about purchasing the property. 92407-1863. For information about the status of this trustee's sale, call (916) 387-7728. For information about purchasing this property AFTER FORE-CLOSURE contact Veterans. Administration, Los Angeles, Dated July 25, 1996. ASAP216833. 8/1. 8/8. 8/15.

City of Lemon Grove, County of San Diego, State of California, according to Map thereof No 7607, filed in the Office of the County Recorder of San Diego County. April 20, 1973. Excepting all min-erals, coals, oils, petroleum, gas and kindred substances under and in said land, but without the right of entry of the surface thereof, but with the right, however, to drill in, through or under said land or to explore, deunder said land or to explore, develop or take all minerals, coals, oils, petroleum, gas and other kindred substances and from said land, all such operations to be constructed below a depth of 500 feet below the surface thereof YOU ARE IN DEFAULT UNDER A DEED OF TRUST DATED 6/15/83 UNLESS YOU TAKE ACTION TO "PROTECT YOUR PROPERTY, IT MAY BE SOLD AT A PUBLIC SALE IF YOU NEED AN EXPLANATION" "OF THE NATURE OF THE PROCEEDING AGAINST YOU, YOU SHOULD CONTACT A LAW-YER" "2128 SIEGLE CT. LEMON GROVE, CA 91945" "CIT a street address or common designation. under said land or to explore, de a street address or common designation of property is shown above a street address or common designation of property is shown above no warranty" is given as to its completeness or correctness)." The beneficiary under said Deed "of Trust, by reason of a breach or default in the obligations secured thereby," heretofore executed and delivered to the undersigned a written Declaration of "Default and Demand for Sale, and written notice of default and of election to cause" the undersigned to sell said property to saitsfy said obligations, and thereafter" the undersigned caused said notice of default and of election to be "RecordedApril 25, 1996 as Instr. No. 1996/0207684 In Book" File/Page of Official Records in the office of the recorder of San Diego-County, Said Sale of property will be made in "as is" condition without NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE

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# FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT Assigned File No 96012200 The Name of the Business GOLDEN AGE HOMES, INC

located at 6929 Miramar Road. Suite 102 in San Diego Califor-nia 92121-2641 is hereby regis-tered by the following owner

TODD H SMITH CORPORATION CALIFORNIA This business is conducted by

a Corporation
The transaction of business
began on July 17, 1996
Signature of Registrant
TODD H SMITH PRESIDENT

This statement was filed with Gregory J Smith the Recorder/ County Clerk of San Diego County on JUL 23, 1996 Lemon Grove Review August 1, 8, 15 & 22, 1996

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE IS No. 96-0586-0667 Loan No. 1756-106 YOU ARE IN DEFAULT UNDER A DEED OF TRUST. DATED 67993 UNLESS YOU TAKE ACTION TO PROPERTY. IT MAY BE SOLD AT A PUBLIC SALE IF YOU NEED AN EXPLANATION OF THE NATURE OF THE PROCEDING AGAINST YOU. YOU SHOULD CONTACT A LAW-YER ON 82296 at 1000 AM, LONESTAR MORTGAGE SERVICES, LLC. as duly appointed Trustee under and pursuant to Deed of Trust recorded 7/6/93, as instrument No. 1933-03199 19 nobe, page of Official No. 1933-03199 19 nobe, page of Official Cardinal No. 1934-03199 19 nobe, page of Official Cardinal Records in the office of the County, Recorder Records in the office of the County Recorder Records in the office of the County Recorder Records in the office of the County Recorder Accords in the Office of the Cou

SOUTH ENTRANCE TO THE COUNTY COURTHOUSE 220 WEST BROADWAY SAN DIEGO. CALIFORNIA (NOTE CASHIER'S CHECKIS) MUST BE MADE PAY-ABLE TO LONESTAR MORTGAGEE ASSISTANCE CORP all night itels and interest conveyed to and now held by it under said Deed of Trust in the property studied in said County and State described as As more fully described in the above mentioned Deed of Trust APN #503-310-53-00. The street address and other common designation, if any County and state described as As more runy described in the above mentioned Died of Trust. APN #503-310-53-00 The street address and other common designation, if any, of the real property described above is purported to be 2515 WASHINGTON STREET. LEMON GROVE CA 91945 The undersigned Trustee disclaims any labelity for any incorrectness of the street address and other common designation of any shown herein. Said sale will be made but without coverant or warranty expressed or implied regarding title possession or encumbrances, to pay the remaining principal sum of the not(e) secured by said. Deed of Trust with interest thereon as provided in said of the further on as provided in said of the further of the provided in the county where the terms of said Deed of Trust fees charges and expresses of the further on as provided in said of the trusts created by said. Deed of Trust The total amount of the uniqual balance of the obligation secured by the property to be sold and reasonable estimated costs, expenses and advances at the time of the initial publication of the Notice of Sale is \$156,722,61. The beneficiary under said. Deed of Trust herefore excelled and delivered to the undersigned caused said Notice of Default and Election to Sell to be recorded in the county where the real property is located Date. July 25, 1996 LONESTAR MORT. GAGEE SERVICES LLC as Trustee Healther Miller. Authorized Signature Address. P.O. Box. \$153,88, 0,81as. Text. \$17,752. LONESTAR MORT. GAGEE SERVICES LLC as Trustee Healther Miller. Authorized Signature Address. P.O. Box. \$153,88, 0,81as. Text. \$17,752. LONESTAR MORT. GAGEE SERVICES LLC. IS a ROUTLE HEALTH AUTHOR WAS ALLEY TO COLLECT A DEBT AND ENGINEER AND PLASE CALL [196]88,7778. LONESTAR MORT. GAGEE SERVICES LLC. IS a ROUTLE HEALTH AUTHOR WAS AND PLASE CALL [196]88,7778. LONESTAR MORT. GAGEE SERVICES LLC. IS a ROUTLE HEALTH AUTHOR WAS AND PLASE CALL [196]88,7778. LONESTAR MORT. GAGEE SERVICES LLC. IS a ROUTLE HEALTH AUTHOR WAS AND PLASE CALL [196]88,7778. LONESTAR MORT. GAGEE SERVICES OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR PURPOSE ASAP216734 8/1, 8/8, 8/15

### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT Assigned File No 96012227 The Name of the Business SOMBAT ENTERPRISES

located at 862 Union Street. Ste C in San Diego 92101 is hereby registered by the following owner SOMBAT PALMER

2905 CLARISSA COURT LEMON GROVE, CA 91945 This business is c an Individual

The transaction of business began on 6-6-96 Signature of Registrant SOMBAT PALMER

This statement was filed with Gregory J Smith the Recorder/ County Clerk of San Diego County on JUL 23, 1996 Lemon Grove Review August 1, 8, 15 & 22, 1996

#### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT Assigned File No 9690719 The Name of the Business DUROTHERM SAN DIEGO located at 575 Parkwood Dr. in San Diego 92139 is hereby regis-

tered by the following ov ANTONIO D VALENTIN

This business is conducted by an Individual

an Individual
The transaction of business
began on July 20, 1996
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ANTONIO D VALENTIN
This statement was filed with Gregory J Smith the Recorder/ County Clerk of San Diego County on
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Signature of Registrant DAN M JAMISON
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### Letters to the Editor

#### Staff plans benefit staff, not the city

Several years ago, I had occasion to be at a Lemon Grove City Council meeting which really opened my eyes to some interesting truths about our city. I've attended roughly 200 of these meetings in my ten years of home ownership on Central Avenue. Out of all those meetings, I gained more insight that night than I had in a while.

The Council, that evening, had been discussing whether to allow the USA Gas station (at New Jersey and Broadway) to keep its longtime corporate colors or to require USA Gas to change its colors to compliment the new Home Depot.

Mayor Burns was interested in making sure the large trademark American Flag and Flagpole stayed with USA Gas and its remodel/revamp plans. Councilmember Lake felt it was not realistic to attempt to persuade a Corporation to alter its longstanding logo. Councilmember Sessom asked why this was being proposed to council in the manner that it was, as she tended to agree with Mr. Lake.

In response, Lemon Grove City Manager Doug Yount stated, "...the Design Review Committee, had felt this to be an important issue to bring to Council for discussion and consideration."

Councilwoman Sessom said she was unfamiliar with this committee, and proceeded to ask the other council members if they had hear of it (DRC)? Not one member of our elected Council, knew of, or had ever even heard of it

Next, Sessom asked who was on this committee, and what was their authority and/or responsibility? City Manager Doug Yount was just a bit pressed by this line of inquiry, but answered candidly, that the Design Review Committee (DRC) was a committee made up of four people: 1) City Manager, 2) City Clerk/Finance Director, 3) Planning Director, and 4) City Engineer. At the time of this particular council meeting, that would have been Doug Yount, Christine Taub, Jim Butler, and Les Ruh. Doug then went on to say that the DRC's "role" was to "exercise discretionary oversight" over the planning process!

Then councilmember Sessom asked Mayor Burns again if he had known of this committee? Dr. Burns again stated that he had not!

My own question at this point would have been, "...well, who gave them - Management staff permission to form such a secret committee, that not even the Mayor knows about!" For, if I were to reference and evidence the rather idiotic Building and Development Practices

would have to say that it looks like the inmates are running the asylum. If the DRC has ever exercised this so-called discretionary oversight what guidelines do they use if all we ever end up with are developments like Cow-flop Flats (Miller's Ranch), Chatham Court, Clarissa Court and the un-named ugly apartment complexes jammed into our residential neighborhoods. I come away with the impression that these people do not work for us, so much as they work on us!

The Lemon Grove Review reported this rather accidental discovery of the DRC, then basically the subject was dropped! But, alas, not by me, and even though no one on staff or the Council seems to want to discuss it, I feel it's important, because it at least explains who had/has final approval to Developers and why the Developers always have more power to exploit than to enhance our neighborhoods!

Consider also that not one member of this secret committee, lives in Lemon Grove. Tangible loyalty lost, on that point. It seems no small wonder that most people don't seem to understand what's up with City Hall?

So, now it's months later and we have a new mayor and two new council-members. We supposedly have a bright new future to "believe in" because of three things, the GPAC/EIR, the Economic Development Task Force Report and the Project Our Town implementors. I have three more letter/articles to share concerning GPAC and the EDTF, so I'll stick to Project Our Town, for the pre-

To quote Mayor Sessom's recent State of the City Address, Project Our Town's goal is to achieve and maintain a higher quality of life here. It does this by taking all the information in the documents (GPAC and EDTF) and weaving them into a simple structure that will guide the City Council's decision making."

This "guide business" sounds to me a lot like "exercising discretionary oversight" and it looks like our City Council doesn't ever really want to listen to the public, but only to the DRC/POT, i.e.

As a homeowning member of the public, I personally have never had one expressed concern favorably addressed by staff or City Council, and I have voiced my concerns on a myriad of issues. I have had to seek successful replacement of missing streetlights on my own, after efforts to work with both staff and council failed. Safety concerns over conditions on Central Avenue. have city for at least the last decade, I tinued downtrend in our property

values, the weekly loss of small businesses, medium or growing businesses (like Taylor Guitars) and non-profit organizations (like Lemon Grove Arts Complex) make me less than optimistic about who's guiding this city now, and very jaundiced by what has gone on in the past. Staff, it seems, very much desire us (L.G.) to believe in our city, yet they don't. Evidence the fact once again - they don't live here and they should!

It is my opinion that our management staff bureaucracy has no tangible loyalty to Lemon Grove and that our City Council is almost utterly enthralled by said Staff for reasons not completely clear. Gloria McLean is only too willing to sue Lemon Grove homeowners for petty non-compliance at a rate of \$90 per hour. This makes me feel even more that Lemon Grove is the host organism to a very exploitative, opportunistic and possibly deadly virus-too much government for this small town (!) and we are not getting anywhere near our monies worth!

The main point of this letter is to brief Lemon Grove on the obvious ploy by management staff to legitimatize an illegitimate entity (the DRC) by re-chartering it as the "Project Our Town." It is still the same people (staff) doing the same thing-nothing (or at least nothing right).

Project Our Town is as much a sham and an artifice as the GPAC/ETR or the Paint Lemon Grove Project. I have more written on GPAC/ETC so I'll deal with Paint Lemon Grove for a moment.

Ask yourself: how can this project claim to be a positive trend in Lemon Grove's future when the project cost taxpayers \$60,000 to paint 40 houses? With all materials, paint and labor donated, I ask, where did the 60K go?

There are a lot of things wrong with our small city and not too many things right anymore, although it used to be the other way around. Uninformed apathy and general lethargy seem to be part of the problem. If you (L.G.) have any interest in saving Lemon Grove - you have got to get involved!

Please start showing up at City Council meetings and hold those people accountable. In lieu of that step (or in addition) how about getting Cox Cable to broadcast our council meetings on the new county channel?

See ya in traffic

JAY M. COCHRANE Lemon Grove

### Pot

Continued from Page 1

outdoor cultivators, and more than \$300,000 worth of indoor cultivators' property was confiscated by the state.

"We have been pretty much leading the state of California in seizures, the most number of plots, plants and arrests," pointed out

A number of weapons related to cultivation were also uncovered in the marijuana-field sweeps.

We seized 58 various weapons on the outdoor plots, and 70 weapons on indoor plots," said Baxter. "A lot of people were protecting their investments.

"Planting, harvesting or processing marijuana is a felony punishable by a 3-to-9 year term in state prison

County sheriffs have received DEA funds to offset expenses of the Marijuana Eradication Task Force for the last 16 years. Sheriff's rent helicopters to do roving aerial reconnaissance, with specially trained narcotics investigators spotting signs of cultivation. The NTF is then called in to coordinate further investigation of suspected plots.

Under the DEA's "Operation Trident," the goal is not just to remove or destroy crops, but to identify, arrest and prosecute cultivators.

The marijuana planting season is March through June with harvesting in September or October.

The county's marijuana eradication program is a proven success,

"That's why the feds continue to fund it," he concluded. "They do get a good bang for their buck."



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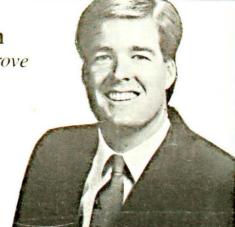
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